

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1196

UNCLAS LAGOS 09061

E.O. 11652 : NA

TAGS : BEXP, NI

SUBJ : MAJOR PROJECT: INQUIRY ABOUT ROAD PROJECT

REF : STATE 204231

1. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY 1200 MILE ROAD PROJECT MENTIONED REFTEL. AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTRY OF WORKS OFFICIAL, BELIEVE IT MAY BE THE REHABILITATION OF ONE OR MORE SEGMENTS OF THE 16,000 KILOMETERS OF TRUNK "B" ROADS WHICH WAS TAKEN OVER THIS YEAR BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. EVEN THEN THE PRACTICE HAS BEEN TO DIVIDE THESE PROJECTS INTO SMALLER "PACKAGES" OF 100-250 MILE SEGMENTS WHICH ARE PUT OUT TO OPEN COMPETITIVE TENDER.

2. IN PAST YEARS NIGERIAN ROAD AUTHORITIES, BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE, IN THEIR HASTE TO COMPLETE ROAD PROJECTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AWARDED A NUMBER OF CONTRACTS ON A TURN-KEY BASIS, WHEREBY A SINGLE FIRM WAS AWARDED BOTH ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES OF THE PROJECT. THIS PROCEDURE HAS PROVED LESS THAN SATISFACTORY. ALTHOUGH THE WORK WAS DONE FASTER THE END RESULT WAS OFTEN OF SUBSTANDARD QUALITY. THERE NOW APPEARS TO BE A MOVEMENT BACK TO THE CONCEPT OF INDEPENDENT ENGINEERS TO ACT AS SUPERVISORS OVER THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS.

THIS HAS OPENED UP NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR AMERICAN
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CONSULTANTS. INTERRESTED PARTIES OR COMPANIES

SHOULD WRITE TO THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, FEDERAL
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING, TAFAWA BALEWA SQUARE,
LAGOS, NIGERIA, EXPRESSING THEIR INTEREST IN
OFFERING NIGERIA, CONSULTING SERVICES AND ASKING
FOR THE RELEVANT QUESTIONNAIRES TO BE SENT TO THEM.

3. IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL OR STATE
CONTRACTS IN NIGERIA, BOTH ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUC-
TION COMPANIES MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE RESPECTIVE
STATE OR FEDERAL WORKS REGISTRATION BOARD.

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